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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2006, 11:00 a.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning Reacts as Supreme Court Refuses to Hear Cases

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today said he is pleased the United States Supreme Court has refused to accept the two remaining appeals that deal with how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages the flow of the Missouri River.

"This is a win for all of Nebraska's interests, including the environment. The end of litigation gives us a long-overdue resolution of conflict in the Basin. Now, we need to shift our focus to come up with long term solutions," Bruning said.

The Supreme Court's decision validates the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' new Master Manual for operations of the Missouri River system.

Nebraska receives more than \$500 million in annual economic benefits from power production, water supply, flood control, navigation and recreation. Each benefit depends on the flow from the Missouri River.

"The court's decision allows us to maintain our level of economic benefits, yet address the needs of endangered species," Bruning said.

The Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals previously ruled to uphold the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's proposal and the Corps' plan for operations, which are based on a proposal made by Nebraska in 2003.

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“The court’s decision allows us to maintain our level of economic benefits, yet address the needs of endangered species,” Bruning said.

The Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals previously ruled to uphold the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s proposal and the Corps’ plan for operations, which are based on a proposal made by Nebraska in 2003.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 21, 2006, 10:00 a.m. CST

CONTACT:
Mary Nelson, 402-471-2067

Attorney General Bruning To Talk Internet Safety with Students

(Lincoln, Neb.) Attorney General Jon Bruning will visit with hundreds of students at Doniphan-Trumbull High School on Monday, April 24, to talk about Internet safety.

The presentation, called SafetyNet, will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Attorney General Bruning will outline ways Internet predators track young victims and provide information on how students can stay safe.

"It's important to be aware of what you're disclosing. Our children need to understand not everyone is who they seem online," Bruning said.

The attorney general will caution students against giving out personal information online, including names, addresses and phone numbers.

"Unfortunately, there are a lot of dangerous criminals who use the Internet to find their next victim," he said. "You may think you're talking to a peer, when you're actually talking to a convicted, middle-aged sex offender."

The visit to Doniphan is one of many the attorney general will make this month to talk about Internet safety. April is Internet Safety Month in Nebraska.

For additional information on how to guard against Internet predators, visit the Attorney General's Web site at www.ago.state.ne.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 21, 2006, 10:00 a.m. CST

CONTACT:
Mary Nelson, 402-471-2067

Attorney General Bruning To Talk Internet Safety with Students

(Lincoln, Neb.) Attorney General Jon Bruning will visit with hundreds of students at Lakeview High School on Monday, April 24, to talk about Internet safety.

The presentation, called SafetyNet, will begin at 10:15 a.m.

Attorney General Bruning will outline ways Internet predators track young victims and provide information on how students can stay safe.

"It's important to be aware of what you're disclosing. Our children need to understand not everyone is who they seem online," Bruning said.

The attorney general will caution students against giving out personal information online, including names, addresses and phone numbers.

"Unfortunately, there are a lot of dangerous criminals who use the Internet to find their next victim," he said. "You may think you're talking to a peer, when you're actually talking to a convicted, middle-aged sex offender."

The visit to Columbus is one of many the attorney general will make this month to talk about Internet safety. April is Internet Safety Month in Nebraska.

For additional information on how to guard against Internet predators, visit the Attorney General's Web site at www.ago.state.ne.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 21, 2006, 9:45 a.m. CST

CONTACT:
Mary Nelson, 402-471-2067

Attorney General Bruning To Talk Internet Safety with Students

(Lincoln, Neb.) Attorney General Jon Bruning will visit with hundreds of students at Lexington Middle School Monday, April 24, to talk about Internet safety.

The presentation, called SafetyNet, will begin at 8:15 a.m.

Attorney General Bruning will outline ways Internet predators track young victims and provide information on how students can stay safe.

"It's important to be aware of what you're disclosing. Our children need to understand not everyone is who they seem online," Bruning said.

The attorney general will caution students against giving out personal information online, including names, addresses and phone numbers.

"Unfortunately, there are a lot of dangerous criminals who use the Internet to find their next victim," he said. "You may think you're talking to a peer, when you're actually talking to a convicted, middle-aged sex offender."

The visit to Lexington is one of many the attorney general will make this month to talk about Internet safety. April is Internet Safety Month in Nebraska.

For additional information on how to guard against Internet predators, visit the Attorney General's Web site at www.ago.state.ne.us.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2006, 6:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning Announces Charges in Pawnee County Murder

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced his office has filed charges against Patrick W. Schroeder (DOB: 6/20/77) of Dubois, Neb. Schroeder is charged with first degree murder, use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony and forgery.

Schroeder is suspected of killing Kenneth F. Albers (DOB: 11/25/30) of Pawnee City, Neb. Albers died of blunt force trauma to the head.

Due to a conflict of interest, Pawnee County Attorney Vic Faesser requested assistance from the Attorney General's Office. Assistant Attorney General Don Kleine will prosecute the case.

"Justice must be served. We will do everything in our power to shine the light of day on these horrendous and senseless crimes," Bruning said.

Schroeder will be arraigned Thursday morning in Pawnee County.

If he is convicted of first-degree murder, Schroeder will spend life in prison without the possibility of parole. The other counts, use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony and forgery, each carry sentences of one to 20 years.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 13, 2006, 3:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

ATTORNEY GENERAL BRUNING, SENATOR FRIEND HAIL PASSAGE OF DUI BILL

(Lincoln, Neb.) Attorney General Jon Bruning and Omaha Senator Mike Friend today hailed the passage of LB 925, a plan to increase penalties for repeat drunk drivers.

“We have to crack down on repeat drunk drivers to keep them from risking the lives of innocent Nebraskans. The bottom line is that the punishment must fit the crime. I am grateful the Legislature took action,” Bruning said.

Senator Friend sponsored LB 925, and also made it his personal priority bill for 2006.

“The goal and objective behind LB 925 from the outset, was to develop legislation that promoted safer roads for all Nebraskans. I believe, because of the hard work of the Legislature and community activists, we have accomplished exactly that,” Friend said.

In addition to increasing penalties for repeat drunk drivers, LB 925 also creates new offenses with enhanced penalties for offenders whose blood alcohol content is at or above .15 percent.

LB 925 is part of the attorney general’s 2006 legislative package.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2006, p.m. CST

CONTACT
Aaron Sanderford, 402-471-1967
Ashley Craddock, 402-471-1970
Mary Nelson, 402-471-2067

Gov. Heineman, Attorney General Bruning Applaud LB 1199 Passage

(Lincoln, Neb.) Gov. Dave Heineman and Attorney General Jon Bruning today applauded the Legislature for its overwhelming passage of LB 1199, the comprehensive approach to protecting Nebraska families from sexual predators developed jointly by the Attorney General, Sen. Pat Bourne of Omaha, Chairman of the Legislature's Judiciary Committee, and the Governor – a bill prioritized by Sen. Mike Flood of Norfolk.

The bill stiffens penalties for criminals who perpetrate on children, enables new post-sentence monitoring of offenders and creates a new mental health commitment standard for offenders deemed unsafe to return to society. LB 1199 also includes some guidelines for a narrowly focused residency restriction.

Gov. Heineman said, "Feel-good legislation is not going to protect our children and grandchildren from sexual predators, but LB 1199 will. This realistic, comprehensive legislation adds mandatory minimums, monitoring and long-term mental health commitments to the arsenal that prosecutors can use to put these predators away."

Attorney General Bruning said, "We must do all we can to protect Nebraska's innocent children from falling prey to sex offenders. This bill will help keep these criminals out of our communities and away from our children. I appreciate Senator Bourne and Senator Flood's leadership, and the Legislature's foresight in passing this important bill."

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2006, 3:30 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning Warns Nebraskans About "809" Scam

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today issued a warning to Nebraskans about a scam involving numbers with an "809" area code.

Scammers may leave a message on your answering machine, telling you a family member is sick, a friend has been arrested, or you have won a prize. Then, you are asked to call the "809" number immediately.

"Some people think this is just another toll free '800' number. It isn't. The best thing to do is ignore the call. If you don't, getting your money back will be nearly impossible," Bruning said.

"809" numbers are directed to the Dominican Republic and can cost you as much as \$25 per minute. This is similar to "900" numbers in the United States, except there is no requirement to warn consumers of the charges and rates involved.

"Be skeptical. Protect yourself by dealing with companies you know and trust," Bruning said.

Similar scams may also involve "876," "868," and "284" area codes.

For additional information, contact the Nebraska Attorney General's Office. Call (800) 727-6432. En Espanol (888) 850-7555 or contact us at www.ago.ne.us.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 5, 2006, 3:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning to Talk Internet Safety

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning will kick off 'Internet Safety Month' at Irving Middle School in Lincoln on April 6 at 8:00 a.m.

Attorney General Bruning will talk to a group of 6th and 7th grade students about the dangers that lurk online.

"We have to arm kids with the facts about Internet predators, so they can protect themselves online. It's alarming how often kids are solicited for sex on the Internet. One out of every five children who use the Internet regularly will be approached for sex. As a parent, that scares me to death," Bruning said.

Throughout April, Bruning will take his message of how to stay safe online across the state, including schools in Doniphan and Columbus.

"I encourage parents, teachers and kids to visit our Web site, www.safekids.ne.gov, which has information on how to use the Internet safely," Bruning said.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 5, 2006, 12:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning Hails Advancement of Sex Offender Bill

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today hailed state lawmakers for advancing LB 1199, a comprehensive plan to protect children from sex offenders.

“Predators who hurt children deserve to be locked up for a long time. Today, we are one step closer to ensuring Nebraska’s children are safe,” Bruning said.

Bruning helped construct LB 1199, which will stiffen penalties for criminals who sexually assault children. It will also create a new mental health standard for sex offenders deemed likely to re-offend. The bill also provides lifetime monitoring of the most serious offenders, and addresses sex offender residency restrictions.

Attorney General Bruning and Governor Dave Heineman worked with Judiciary Committee Chairman, Omaha Senator Pat Bourne, on the bill. Norfolk Senator Mike Flood made LB 1199 his personal priority bill.

“Senator Bourne and Senator Flood have worked hard on this plan. I appreciate their commitment to protecting our children,” Bruning said.

Today, the bill advanced from Select File to the third and final round of voting, called Final Reading.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2006, 5:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning Reacts to Sentence in Reinsch Case

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today reacted to the sentencing of Timothy J. Reinsch of Bruning, Nebraska.

Reinsch, a former Norder Agri-Supply plant manager, was sentenced to 10 days in jail, 60 months probation, 100 hours of public service and \$50,000 restitution.

Norder Agri-Supply has seven locations in Nebraska. Reinsch was taking products from the Shickley location and selling them to farmers in the area. He then cashed the checks and put them into his personal account.

"Mr. Reinsch abused the trust of his employer and the farmers who bought the goods. He also abused his power, and now, he is going to pay the price," Bruning said.

Between July 2001 and September 2004, Reinsch stole \$109,860.76.

In February, pursuant to a plea agreement, Reinsch was found guilty of two counts of Theft by Deception in Fillmore County and Clay County. Theft by Deception is a Class III Felony.

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Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 3, 2006, 12:00 p.m. CST

Contact: Mary Nelson
402.471.2067

Attorney General Bruning, Senator Aguilar React as Meth Bill is Passed

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning and Grand Island Senator Ray Aguilar today hailed the passage of LB 915. The bill will protect Nebraskans from the dangerous effects of meth, by creating property cleanup standards for clandestine meth labs in the state.

"This is a step in the right direction in the fight against meth. We will continue to work with everyone involved, to do what's best for Nebraska," Bruning said.

LB 915 is part of Bruning's 2006 legislative crime package, and was also Senator Aguilar's personal priority bill for 2006.

"After seeing the horrible conditions clandestine meth labs leave behind, I am extremely pleased the Legislature agreed standards are necessary," Aguilar said. "This will keep individuals and families from being harmed by the chemical residues left by meth labs. It will also give property owners the guidelines they've been asking for in order to keep their properties safe for future occupants."

Bruning said, "We've come a long way, and thanks to Senator Aguilar, we now have one more tool in the fight against meth."

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